

NEW LAW DECREASES U. S. LABORERS 67,332

First Year of Immigration
Restrictions Seriously Af-
fects Manufacturing.

FELT BY FARMERS TOO

The Industrial Conference
Board Sees Need for Rad-
ical Change in Law.

SKILLED WORKERS COME

Large Percentage of Women
and Children Also in Those
Arriving Here.

Industry in the United States is faced with the problem of a labor shortage, according to information just gathered by the National Industrial Conference Board, 10 East Thirty-ninth street. One of the principal causes is that the new immigration restrictions have resulted in a net loss of 67,332 laborers in the one year of the law's operation. That is to say, emigration of laborers exceeded immigration of laborers by that number.

Applying that loss to the labor supply of American manufacturing industry the board's figures show a net loss of 39,833 workers, the remainder being distributed among other lines of endeavor.

The foregoing figures do not mean that the total emigration has exceeded the total immigration under the new law, but they mean that the immigrants of a character available for labor are smaller in number than those emigrants who had been employed here.

A tremendous percentage of the immigration has consisted of women and children, whose passage to this country usually has been financed by relatives here. There was a net increase of 110,844 in immigration over emigration, but of that number 104,326 were women and only 6,518 men.

Effect on Country's Labor.

Further need for a change in the law that will help to relieve this situation is seen by the board in the steady decline in the last fifty years in the availability of the normal increase in our native population for the growing needs of industry.

The board points out that business and industrial leaders are agitating for a lifting of the immigration bars. In the iron and steel industry especially such leaders as E. H. Gary of the United States Steel Corporation and President E. G. Grace of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation are inclined to favor an increase in immigration or at least an improved selection of arrivals. The iron and steel industry is expected to ask at least that the 3 per cent. limitation be made a net limitation, taking into account the number of emigrants which has been so large during the first year of the act's operation that its main purpose may be said to have been upset.

This industry feels that the 3 per cent. limitation operated actually to decrease the available number of common laborers. Other industries are also affected and have been led to a similar point of view on the present act.

Even certain farmers' representatives maintain that the dearth of labor is holding up the reclamation of land in the West, forcing up the wages of farm labor and decreasing the purchasing power of the farmer's dollar. Organized labor, of course, and some Protestant church bodies are opposed to an enlargement of the present quotas.

Analysis of Immigrant Figures.

An analysis of immigration statistics by the National Industrial Conference Board for the first complete fiscal year of the present restriction law shows clearly some facts of the law in relation to American industry.

Immigrant aliens admitted during the fiscal year of 1922, preceding the present law, numbered 895,328, while 247,718 immigrant aliens departed, leaving a net increase of population by immigration of 647,610 persons. In the first fiscal year of the law's operation, July 1, 1921 to June 30, 1922, the number of immigrant aliens reported was 393,556, and the number leaving, 198,712, making a net increase of population by immigration of only 194,844, or less than one-fifth the gain in the preceding year.

Of this 194,844 net increase 104,326 were women and only 6,518 men. Taking both immigrant and non-immigrant aliens admitted and departed, this first fiscal year shows a net loss of 11,687 males to the country.

The largest net immigration was of English, French, German, Hebrew, Irish, Mexican, Scandinavian and Scotch people. In short, of the races from which the skilled rather than the common labor of American industry has been recruited. Of the Hebrews, who are chiefly traders, clerks and so on, 5,524 entered, while only 420 left.

Races That Showed Loss.

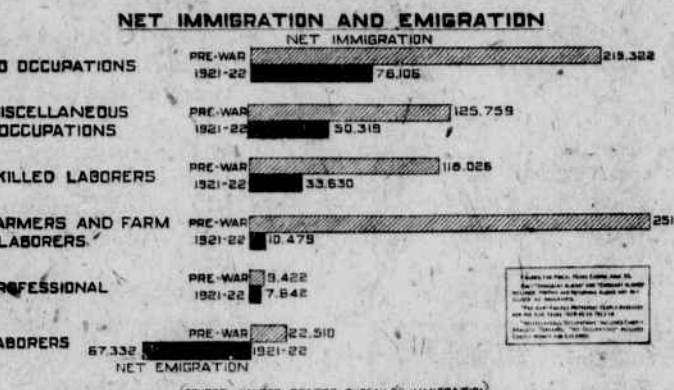
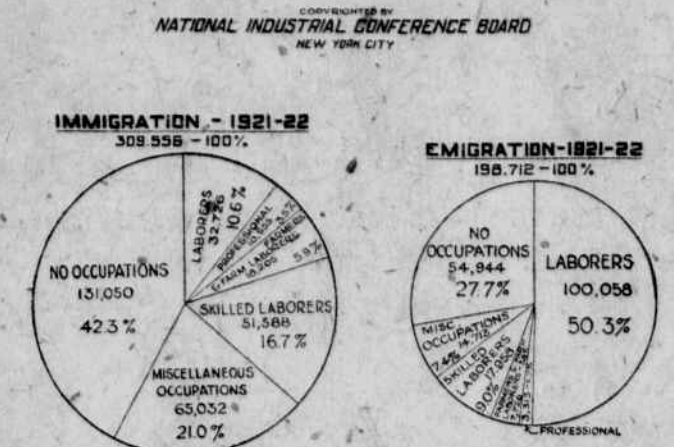
Of the following races the number departing exceeded the number admitted: Bohemians and Czechs, Bulgarians, Serbians, Chinese, Croats, Slovenians, Danes, Dutch, Estonians, Finns, Greeks, Italians, Lithuanians, Magyars, Poles, Portuguese, Rumanians, Russians, Spaniards, Syrians and Turks. Against the 41,154 Italians admitted, 54,018 left the country, and only 6,357 Poles entered while 21,004 left. The latter races have hitherto supplied the bulk of the common labor for American industry.

There was a net increase of 7,642 of the professional class, 33,620 skilled workers, 10,200 servants and 76,106 of no occupation, including women and children, while there was a net loss of 67,332 classed as laborers. About 1,600 more workers classified as skilled men left the country than entered it, but the country gained 10,170 immigrants classed as farmers and farm laborers. Therefore the immigration for the first fiscal year of the new law's operation represents a net loss of 30,833 workers.

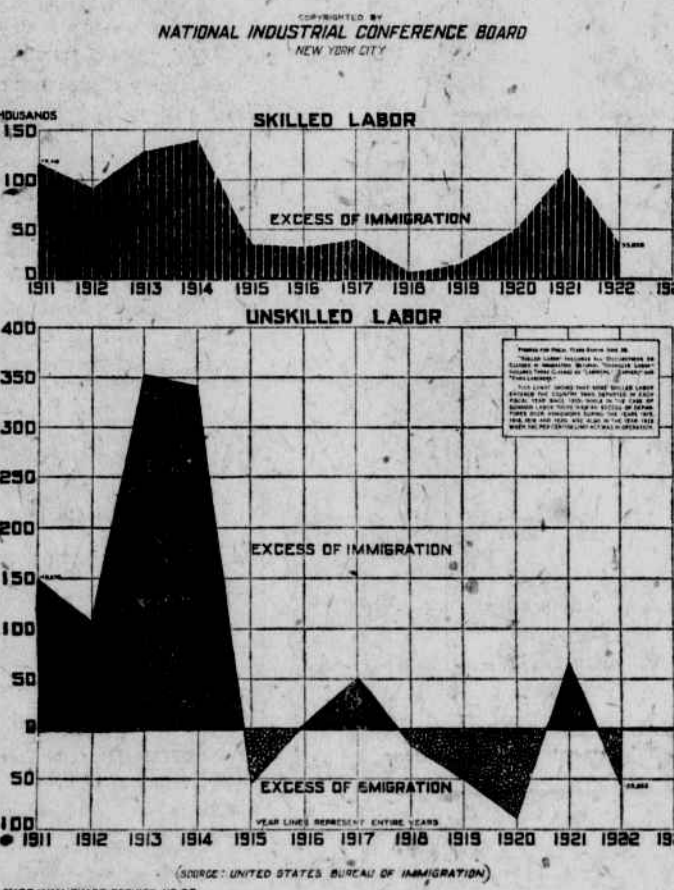
Under the law 355,825 immigrant aliens were admissible during the first fiscal year, but only 305,556 entered the country. The numbers entering from Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Norway, Russia, Sweden and the United Kingdom fell far short of the quotas admissible, while in the case of Rumania the quota was exceeded. For the coming fiscal year 357,803 are admissible, but it is likely that, as in the previous year, this quota will not be filled.

Whatever may have been the actual effect of the law upon the labor supply of American industry, there is little doubt among industrialists that industry is faced with the problem of a labor

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION BY OCCUPATIONS—UNITED STATES



NET IMMIGRATION UNITED STATES—FISCAL YEARS 1911-1922



shortage. It is having increasing difficulty in obtaining an adequate supply of unskilled labor and an adequately trained force of skilled labor to meet the demands of its rapid expansion.

Equal to War Time Problem.

This is a problem that equals any that industry had to face in the war period and one that may have most far-reaching effects on the internal structure of industry and upon general external features of American economic life. Reports received by the National Industrial Conference Board through its associated manufacturers and from other sources indicate an increasing shortage in labor supply, which is more than seasonal or local in character.

In June of this year 29 localities in 15 States reported shortages of labor of various classes. In July these reports jumped to 122 and in August to 128, while in September in 12 States there were 121 reports of shortages. In October 120 cases of local labor shortages were reported in all States from Massachusetts to California and as far south as Mississippi. The demand for farm help figured somewhat in the reports, but the chief demand was in industrial districts and applied chiefly to both skilled and unskilled labor in building and in the metal trades.

The American Federation of Labor reports a surplus of labor in five localities, namely Meadown, Youngstown, Ohio, Detroit, Kenosha, Wis., and Pittsburgh, whereas the United States Department of Labor in its employment surveys reports a shortage in the same five localities at the same time. The Labor Bureau, Inc., of New York City, economic advisor to leading national labor unions, however, confirms the reports of a general labor shortage and points directly to the immigration act as a factor in this situation.

How Wages Are Affected.

The real reflection of the labor supply situation is in its effect on wages. Reports received by the National Industrial Conference Board show the following changes during the last six months:

Date. Reductions. Increases. C'ges. Total.

May 15-June 15... 23 29 49

June 15-July 15... 25 21 46

July 15-Aug. 15... 7 8 15

Aug. 15-Sept. 15... 4 119 123

Sept. 15-Oct. 15... 4 69 65

Oct. 15-Nov. 15... 1 35 37

The actual effect of the immigration restriction law upon this whole situation cannot be rightly estimated without an understanding that the normal increase in native population appears to be constantly less adequate to supply the needs of our growing industry and each year sends a smaller proportion of those of working age into industrial occupa-

tion. Up to 1860 the population of the United States was doubling every twenty-five years. From 1870 to 1890 the rate of increase fell to about 26 per cent. every ten years. Between 1890 and 1900 it dropped to 20.7 per cent. and in 1910 the rate of increase was about 21 per cent. every decade. The 1920 census showed a rate of increase of a little less than 15 per cent.

The slowing up of the growth of population from 1910 to 1920 left us about six million short of the population we would have had had the previous rate kept up. This shortage is largely due to the stoppage of immigration by the war. Between 1900 and 1910 more than eight million immigrants came to the United States, while between 1910 and 1920 the number fell to five millions, which was largely offset by losses due to immigration and deaths among the immigrants. In addition the percentage of increase in the native white population declined from 28.8 per cent. between 1900 and 1910 to 18.4 per cent. between 1910 and 1920 and a somewhat larger decrease took place in the rate of growth of the negro population.

Immigration Picks Up Late.

Immigration since June of this year appears to have picked up considerably, probably under the influence of better business conditions. The excess of immigrants over emigrants rose from about 12,000 in June to 40,000 in September. Nevertheless, if we take only the first half of 1922 and count only the male immigrants as compared with male emigrants, we find that the operation of the law brought to us only about 14,000 more men than left the country.

Another special feature of the law is that it was intended so to operate that it might bring us a larger number of those who would be available for industrial work and who might be considered to make better citizens, especially the northern European races. In this the law seems definitely to have failed.

"The nations of southern and southeastern Europe sent in their full quotas in the first fiscal year of the law's operation and in some instances slightly more. The northern European countries lagged. Only 28 per cent. of the German quota came over, 48 per cent. of the Norwegian, 55 per cent. of the British and 43 per cent. of the Swedish. The immigration from such countries as Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia and Italy, which filled their quotas to the limit, may be considered to have helped the labor supply in the iron and steel industries, but of these races it was chiefly women and children and not able-bodied men who migrated.

The real problem to be settled, according to the board, is whether the country actually needs a larger volume of immigration or a better quality, and whether some means may be worked out for adjusting the flow of immigration to accord with both industrial needs and broader social considerations.

Churches for Smackover.

Newly Rich Oil Man Will Build Two in Arkansas.

MONROE, Iowa, Nov. 25.—W. A. Mackenzie of Smackover, Ark., in the heart of a new oil field, three months ago a poor man and now a wealthy oil operator as the result of the discovery of oil on his land, has decided to donate \$100,000 for the construction of two churches at Smackover. One will be known as the Memorial Presbyterian Church and the second as the Mission Baptist Church.

I think a man ought to show his appreciation to the author of his blessings," said Mackenzie, "and I am going to build churches with a part of the money I get."

FOR SHARE CONTROL IN GERMAN INDUSTRY

Arnold Rechberg Proposes
Allied Management by
Part Ownership.

INTERESTS IN COMMON

Transfer to English and
French Concerns Would
Create Similar Ties.

AVOIDING DANGER OF WAR

Says Most European Conflicts
Arise From Economic Causes
Among Rivals.

Special Correspondence to THE NEW YORK
Herald.
New York Herald Bureau,
Berlin, Nov. 11.

The Stinnes-Lubersack agreement for delivery of materials for reconstruction in northern France gave impetus to a number of similar agreements between French and German firms and raised the question of closer cooperation of the industries in the two countries. Partisans of a rapprochement see the necessity of the first steps taking place under the peace treaty. The Stinnes-Lubersack agreement is of this nature and makes possible rational delivery in wares and materials. Already leading industries in both countries are taking steps toward closer industrial cooperation.

Arnold Rechberg, a prominent potash mine owner and manufacturer, one of the first Germans to advocate contact between French and German industry, gave a correspondent of THE NEW YORK HERALD his views about the Stinnes agreement and the way it and similar enterprises might be combined with his proposals.

"Intense economic competition between the great European powers," he said, "was one of the causes of the war. Certain of the warring nations, however, did not understand that while German production was making itself felt as a competing force in the world markets Germany herself had become one of the most important buyers of raw materials and manufactured goods.

Warned of Economic Danger.

"The attempts to cripple or destroy such an important market as Germany would naturally bring about severe economic congestion not only in Europe but throughout the world. Before the conclusion of the Versailles treaty I attempted to show the danger that lay in a too severe treatment of Germany. In order to render German production more acceptable to England and France I proposed that both countries should take over shares in German industry to be transferred later to industries in France

and England. This would have created common economic interest among the three countries and would thus have eliminated dangers of future economic wars.

"As it happened, the French were the first to realize how advantageous my plan would be for France. But French advances met with the opposition of the Stinnes group of German industrialists whose influence is considerable. This opposition has since been lessened by the pressure of political and economic necessity. Franco-German cooperation in Upper Silesia, which I personally helped to bring about, the necessity which daily grows more apparent of bringing together French ore and German coal, and finally the fact that the French Premier himself encouraged the discussion of such a plan in London, all may have had something to do with Stinnes's change of mind. It is self-evident that the Stinnes-Lubersack agreement in so far as it tends to create a close economic bond between Germany and France is a step in the direction of the policy that I have been urging ever since the end of the war.

Advantages to Both Sides.

"The Stinnes-Lubersack agreement offers advantages to Germany, and France as well. It will hasten the reconstruction of the north of France and at the same time furnish German industry with an outlet for production. The rebuilding of northern France through German labor will help to diminish the political discord between the two countries. French and Germans working together in the devastated area will lay the foundations for a close economic and political bond between the two peoples. In the face of such a bond, England will also be drawn into an alliance with her two European neighbors. There is no hope for the future of Europe if its great peoples continue to oppose one another. The discord between France and Germany is the chief cause of the European crisis. If this discord can be done away with through work and interests in common an important step will have been made toward saving the Europe of tomorrow.

"Whether my plan is adopted in all its details or not, it is very evident that important groups in both countries have awakened to the necessity of establishing a close economic tie between the two countries. I am persuaded that nothing can prevent the ultimate realization of such an alliance—which must eventually include England. Such a counsel will be of vital importance for the United States. Only the economic and political consolidation of Europe can save the European market as an outlet for American production. European countries must not expect that American capital will be invested in America until the

countries of Europe, by establishing close economic alliances, show that they have ceased to work for their mutual destruction."

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and other private owners. The collection includes examples by Albert Bierstadt, Geo. H. Boughton, P. H. Ratzel, D. Huntington, Frank de Haven, Chas. P. Gruppe, John H. Hart, and many others of note.

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